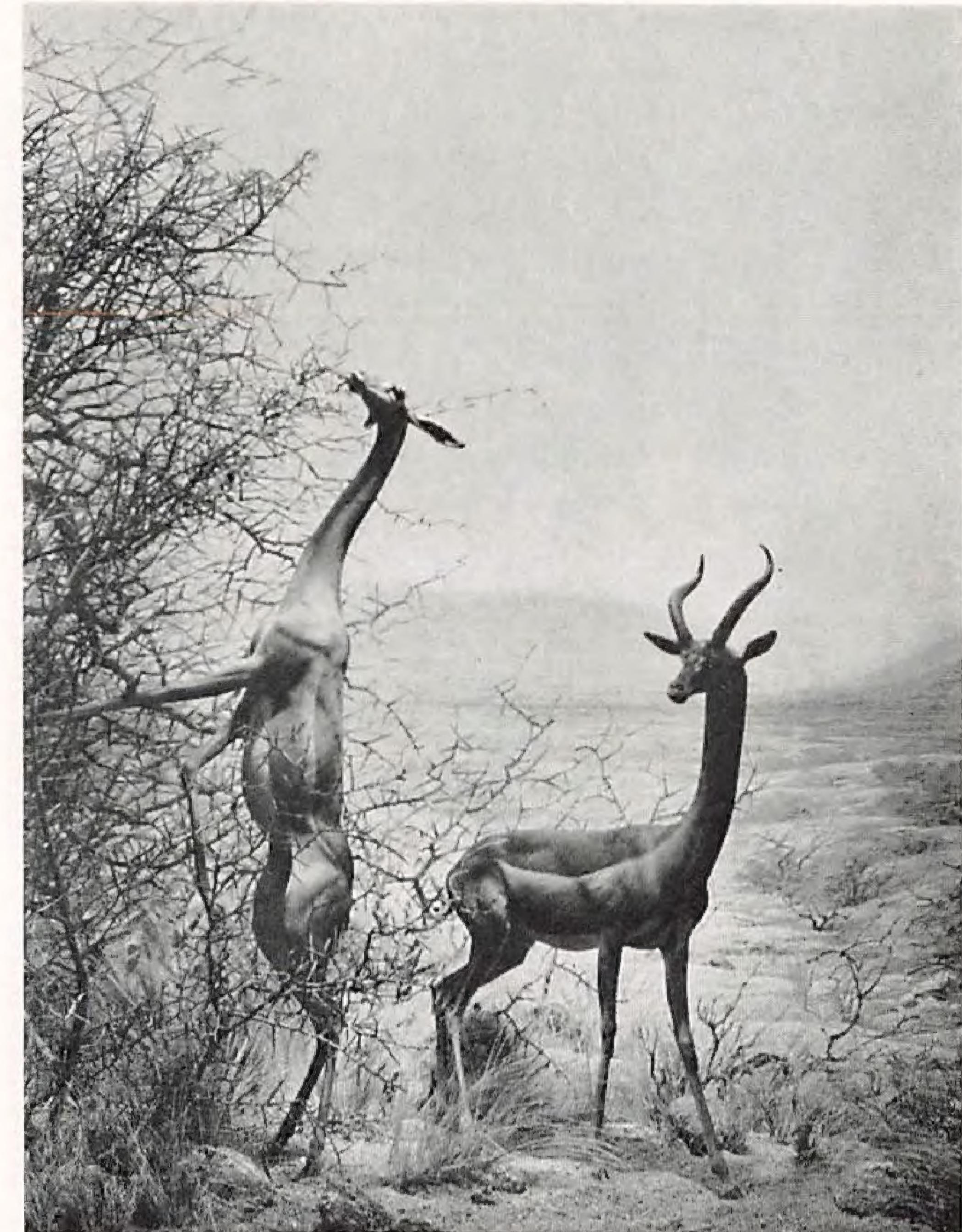


# ACADEMY NEWS LETTER

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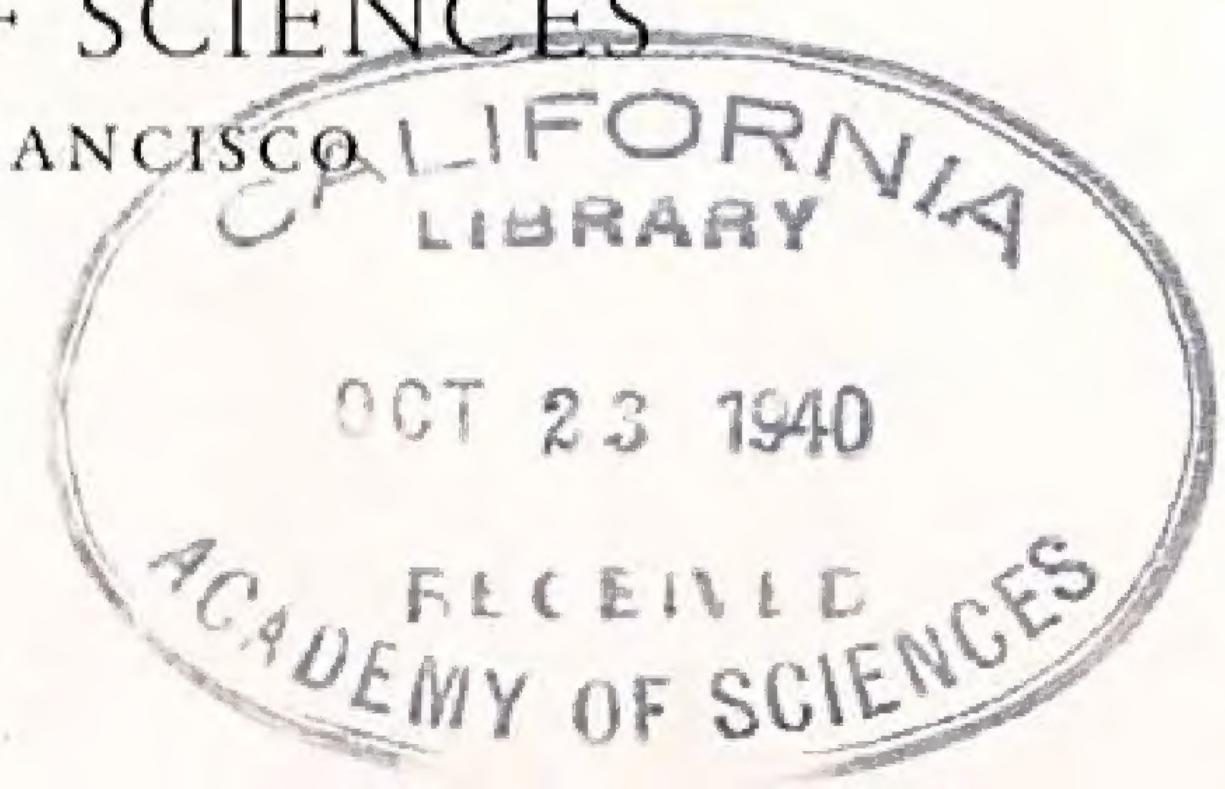


GERENUK EXHIBIT IN THE SIMSON AFRICAN HALL

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## *May Announcement*

THE REGULAR MAY MEETING of the California Academy of Sciences will be held in the Auditorium of the Pacific Gas and Electric Company, 245 Market Street, San Francisco, on Wednesday evening, May 1, 1940, at eight o'clock. The business meeting will be brief and will be followed by the third and last of the spring series of lectures on The Beauties of Nature, on the Walter B. Scaife Foundation.

The speaker of the evening will be Dr. Francis P. Shepard, Professor of Geology at the University of Illinois, whose subject will be "Submarine Canyons off the California Coast." Dr. Shepard has made a particular study of the continental shelf of both Atlantic and Pacific coasts, and of the vast submarine canyons—some of them rivaling the Grand Canyon of the Colorado—that occur along the Coast of California. As fascinating as the canyons themselves are the methods by which they are explored. The lecture will be illustrated with lantern slides.

The public is cordially invited to attend.



NOTICE is hereby given to all CORPORATE MEMBERS that the Council at its meeting April 19, 1940, approved the applications of Dr. E. C. Branchi, Mr. David H. Walker, and Mrs. Safa Paine Wyckoff for MEMBERSHIP in the California Academy of Sciences. If no objection to the election of these applicants be received at the office of the Academy within two weeks after April 25, 1940, they will be considered elected.

OLAF P. JENKINS, Recording Secretary



### NEW EXHIBITS IN THE NORTH AMERICAN HALL

VISITORS to the Academy in recent days have noted with interest the fine new exhibits cases installed in the corridor between the Hall of North American Mammals and the Hall of Birds. These cases, which will be used for changing exhibits, were presented by the Australian National Travel Association, through the courtesy of the manager, Mr. A. H. O'Connor.

It is quite appropriate, therefore, that one of the first exhibits installed should be that of three fine specimens recently donated to the Academy by the Government of Australia—a male and female Lyre Bird, and the curious Duck-bill or Platypus, an egg-laying mammal.

In another of the new cases is an exhibit, arranged with the assistance of Dr. Guy S. Millberry of the University of California School of Dentistry, showing primitive and specialized types of dentition.

An additional exhibit of ivory is shown which includes large tusks of the walrus, the African elephant, and the prehistoric mammoth.



### "THIS WORK PAYS YOUR COMMUNITY WEEK"

DURING the past several years the California Academy of Sciences has received a considerable amount of help from the Federal Government in the form of W.P.A. assistance. The projects that have been in progress have filled a need which the Academy itself, through lack of funds, has been unable to supply. With this governmental assistance many thousands of periodical volumes have been bound, thus rendering them more useful as well as aiding in their preservation, research and exhibit cases have been constructed, much of the cataloguing and labelling of the research collections has been brought up to date and, in addition, a great deal of general renovation both of specimens and buildings has been accomplished. For this reason the members of the Academy as well as the general public are urged to visit the Academy buildings the week of May 20 to 25. During this period the public is cordially invited to observe the various phases of work being carried on by the Work Projects Administration as well as the results that have been accomplished.



### THE GEREUNK (*Lithocranius walleri*)

(See Cover)

THIS GAZELLE ranges from Somaliland southward to the Kilimanjaro district in Tanganyika. In common with many other species of antelope, only the males carry horns.

The Gerenuk subsists almost entirely on the leaves of bushes, and is generally met with on stony ground where there are patches of thorn-jungle. Its long legs and neck are correlated with its peculiar habit of standing on its hind legs and browsing as high as it can reach.

Gerenuks go singly or in bands, but more commonly two or three are seen together.